



Dear Senate Judiciary Committee:

Team O2 / Cadieux Bicycle Club is pleased to support the bicycle safety package before this committee. I strongly urge you to vote in favor SB1029, SB1030, SB1076, SB1077, and SB1078. Collectively, these bills protect vulnerable roadway users, create clear standards for how to safely pass a bicyclist, and improve driver's education in Michigan to put a great emphasis on bicycle safety.

"A bike-friendly community is a friendly community"

Establishing a legal foundation here in Michigan that can create, support, and enhance a safer riding atmosphere for cyclists is the opportunity our legislature faces today. Changes in the law proposed establishes a quantitative standard of a minimum passing distance as automobiles will be obligated to distance themselves from overtaking bicycles by a minimum 5 feet. In addition, creating an Educational Foundation in driver's education classes outlining the rights and responsibilities of cyclists and drivers as they share the road and complimented by questions on the licensing exam will serve to establish a culture here in Michigan that cyclists are indeed not only entitled to ride on our streets and roads but encouraged to do so.

These changes will allow cyclists to further explore, not only our glorious country routes through forests, over rivers, across dams, and by our beautiful lake shores, but also through our striking urban circuits and neighborhoods. A safer riding environment will encourage us to use our roadways to commute to work, run errands, take a trip to the coffee shop or to school and while so doing decrease the pressures of a solely automobile culture.

Safety is the primary concern for cyclists as we put our tires on the road. Establishing safe roadways and sharing them with drivers who recognize their legal responsibility to share the roads is a crucial re-start in a state which has a tradition that began over a hundred years ago with inspiration by the American Wheelmen, of being a leader in recognizing that roads should be built that can safely handle bicycles and automobiles at the same time.

The entire bicycling community urges our legislators to endorse proposed legislation that supports a safer environment and a shared culture which promotes a "friendly community."

E.J. Levy

Activities Director

Team O2 / Cadieux Bicycling Club

Cadieux Bicycling Club was established in 1965 and hosts rides and races aimed at developing and educating cyclists. This year the club promoted the 52nd consecutive Debaets-Devos Criterium Race and two other criterium races. Our members are active users of the International Velodrome at Bloomer Park. We host as many as 5 different training rides a week in various communities around Southeastern Michigan from Canton to Birmingham, West Bloomfield, Rochester, Auburn Hills, Troy, and Franklin and Bloomfield Hills. We travel far and wide to destinations that include, Detroit, Milford, Ann Arbor, Fenton, South Lyon, Brighton, Cohoctah, Argentine, and beyond.

Eleven years ago we established a ride geared towards introducing women to the sport. We introduced a policy that kids race for free at our events. Our bi-annual Woodward Loop Ride along Woodward Avenue, the first paved road in the world, takes cyclists through every community from Pontiac to Detroit "like pearls on a string."

Charity events that we sponsor support fundraising efforts for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, MIU Mens Health Foundation, and Kids Kicking Cancer highlighting our altruistic foundation. In addition we are the sponsoring club for Michigan Youth Cycling, which generates scholarship funds for junior riders and racers. We host the Vintage Velo Bike Ride and bike swap a unique set of events that showcases classic bicycles.

*Team O2 / Cadieux Bicycle Club*

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